

Exhibit A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

v.

23 CR 307 (LJL)

MICHAEL SHVARTSMAN,
GERALD SHVARTSMAN,
BRUCE GARELICK,

Defendants.

Arraignment

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New York, N.Y.
July 20, 2023
12:10 p.m.

Before:

HON. LEWIS J. LIMAN,

District Judge

APPEARANCES

DAMIAN WILLIAMS

United States Attorney for the
Southern District of New York

BY: NICOLAS ROOS

Assistant United States Attorney

TAI PARK

Attorney for Defendants M. Shvartsman and G. Shvartsman

ALLEN FRANKEL

Attorney for Defendant Garelick

1 (Case called)

2 MR. ROOS: Good afternoon, your Honor, Nick Roos for
3 the United States.

4 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Roos.

5 MR. PARK: Good afternoon, your Honor, Tai Park. I'm
6 here for Mr. Michael Shvartsman.

7 I just want to note for the record that Gerald
8 Shvartsman is still seeking New York counsel. With the Court's
9 permission, I'd like to stand in for Mr. Gerald Shvartsman just
10 for purposes of arraignment this afternoon. I have consulted
11 with the government on this, and they have no objection to that
12 process.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Gerald Shvartsman, you consent to
14 going forward with Mr. Park for purposes of the arraignment
15 today.

16 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: Yes, sir.

17 THE COURT: You understand that he's also
18 representing, I guess, your brother?

19 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: With respect to any proceedings today, you
21 waive any potential claim of conflict, I take it?

22 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: Yes, sir.

23 MR. PARK: Thank you, your Honor.

24 MR. FRANKEL: Good afternoon, your Honor, Alan Frankel
25 appearing for Mr. Garelick for the limited purpose of this

1 arraignment.

2 THE COURT: What does that mean, Mr. Frankel?

3 MR. FRANKEL: I've been retained for this appearance,
4 but Mr. Garelick has not quite determined whether or not we are
5 going to be moving forward. He hasn't retained counsel for the
6 New York action.

7 THE COURT: How does he not move forward in connection
8 with this case?

9 MR. FRANKEL: With respect to my firm, your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Roos, why don't you inform me the
11 purposes of today's proceedings.

12 MR. ROOS: Yes, your Honor.

13 All three defendants were arrested in the Southern
14 District of Florida on June 29, 2023, and were presented there.

15 Today the defendants need to be arraigned in this
16 district on the indictment.

17 I believe the Court should set the same bail terms
18 that were entered in Florida, but they should set them here for
19 the purposes of the Southern District of New York.

20 I can then give your Honor any other sort of update
21 you would like about the discovery or the nature of the case.

22 THE COURT: That would be helpful. I also intend to
23 set dates in connection with the case, including a trial date
24 for the case.

25 Let's proceed by way of arraigning the defendants

1 first.

2 Let me direct myself to Mr. Michael Shvartsman.

3 Mr. Michael Shvartsman, have you seen a copy of the
4 indictment?

5 DEFENDANT M. SHVARTSMAN: I have, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Have you read it?

7 DEFENDANT M. SHVARTSMAN: I have, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Would you like me to read it to you?

9 DEFENDANT M. SHVARTSMAN: No. Thank you, your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Have you discussed it with Mr. Park?

11 DEFENDANT M. SHVARTSMAN: I have, your Honor.

12 THE COURT: How do you plead to the indictment?

13 DEFENDANT M. SHVARTSMAN: Not guilty, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Let me address myself to Mr. Gerald
15 Shvartsman.

16 Mr. Gerald Shvartsman, have you seen a copy of the
17 indictment?

18 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: Yes, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Have you read it?

20 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: Yes, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Would you like me to read it to you?

22 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: No, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: How do you plead to the indictment?

24 DEFENDANT G. SHVARTSMAN: Not guilty.

25 THE COURT: Let me address myself to Bruce Garelick.

1 Mr. Bruce Garelick, have you seen a copy of the
2 indictment?

3 DEFENDANT GARELICK: I have, your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Have you read it?

5 DEFENDANT GARELICK: Yes, I have, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Would you like me to read it to you?

7 DEFENDANT GARELICK: No, thank you.

8 THE COURT: Have you discussed it with your counsel?

9 DEFENDANT GARELICK: Yes, I have.

10 THE COURT: How do you plead to the indictment?

11 DEFENDANT GARELICK: I plead not guilty.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Roos, tell me about your case. What's
13 this case about?

14 MR. ROOS: Yes, your Honor. It's an insider trading
15 case, a violation of various securities fraud laws. The
16 substance of the case is as follows:

17 The defendants are alleged to have traded on the basis
18 of material nonpublic information in the stock or security of a
19 publicly traded company, known as Digital World Acquisition
20 Corporation, or DWAC. The alleged nonpublic information
21 related to the nonpublic target for a potential business
22 combination by DWAC. DWAC was a SPAC. SPACs identify a
23 private company that it will do a reverse merger or business
24 combination with.

25 Here, the nonpublic information that was material to

1 the market, as alleged, was the identity of the company, Trump
2 Media, that would be taken public through the SPAC.

3 The defendants are alleged to have learned the
4 confidential information about the target of the SPAC and then
5 traded on the basis of that material nonpublic information and
6 also tipped other individual who traded.

7 THE COURT: Where do you stand with respect to
8 discovery? What is the nature of discovery and where do you
9 stand with respect to it?

10 MR. ROOS: First, your Honor, the government has begun
11 the process of stamping and organizing the discovery.

12 Before we produce anything, we need to enter into a
13 protective order with the defense. We will share a copy with
14 them. Because of the nature of the case, I think a fairly
15 standard protective order is appropriate here. There is no
16 sort of special privacy concerns or anything. Once we do that,
17 we will push out the discovery. I'll give your Honor sort of
18 an understanding of what that looks like.

19 There will be about 2.5 million documents contained
20 within like a database load file format. Those are emails,
21 documents, other communications. And then there will be
22 several images of cell phones that were seized as part of the
23 investigation. The government executed several search warrants
24 in this case, so we will be producing both the search warrant
25 applications and warrants themselves, as well as the materials

1 that were seized pursuant to the warrants. There will also be
2 some other legal applications that we will produce as part of
3 discovery.

4 But, principally, we are talking about the roughly 2.5
5 million documents, as well as the electronic devices that were
6 seized that are not included within that number 2.5 million.

7 THE COURT: When you mentioned that there are search
8 warrants, are there warrants also for the electronic devices?

9 MR. ROOS: Correct. All electronic devices that were
10 seized were pursuant to search warrants.

11 THE COURT: Have the contents of the electronic
12 devices been searched?

13 MR. ROOS: Yes.

14 THE COURT: I take it that discovery is going to
15 include whatever was obtained through the exercise of those
16 warrants, is that right?

17 MR. ROOS: Correct.

18 So, typically, the way we would approach is this, for
19 any device that was seized from a third party, we will give the
20 defendants the responsive take, meaning the materials that were
21 contained on the device that were responsive to the terms of
22 the search warrant, not the entirety of the device; just those
23 materials that were seized from the device.

24 For any device that belongs to one of the defendants
25 themselves, we will produce it to that defendant, the entirety

1 of the device, as well as the responsive take.

2 THE COURT: Couple more questions.

3 Were there any postarrest statements?

4 MR. ROOS: There were no postarrest statements.

5 THE COURT: Besides the search warrants and the search
6 warrant affidavits, were there any searches incident to arrest
7 or any other law enforcement techniques used that could
8 potentially give rise to motion practice?

9 MR. ROOS: There were some physical searches, meaning
10 premises or device searches executed as part of the case, not
11 at the time of arrest, but about a year prior to that.

12 So your Honor is correct that the search warrant
13 materials are a mix of Stored Communication Act warrants and
14 also the types of warrants that were executed at the time --
15 physically, but in person, but those searches didn't occur at
16 the time of arrest. At the time of arrest they were just
17 arrested.

18 THE COURT: Was there a parallel SEC investigation?

19 MR. ROOS: There is a parallel SEC investigation.
20 They filed a complaint in this district.

21 THE COURT: Is it fair to assume that you had an
22 access request to the SEC?

23 MR. ROOS: That's correct.

24 THE COURT: I take it that your discovery will include
25 the materials that you have obtained through the access

1 request, is that correct?

2 MR. ROOS: Correct.

3 THE COURT: How soon can you get me the protective
4 order or get the other side the protective order? How soon
5 after the protective order is signed can you start to get the
6 defense the materials? And how quickly after that can you
7 complete discovery?

8 MR. ROOS: In terms of taking the questions in turn, I
9 think it's possible we can get the protective order to the
10 defense by tomorrow, if not by Monday. I look at my colleagues
11 at the defense table.

12 Would a week be sufficient to review the protective
13 order and potentially work through things?

14 Let's say, sort of budgeting conservatively, we sent
15 it to the defense on Monday, they took a week, which would be
16 the following Monday, which I think takes us to the 31st. At
17 that point say we filed a proposed protective order or, to the
18 extent there was a dispute, which I'm not anticipating here,
19 raise it with the Court.

20 The government can begin producing discovery as soon
21 as those 2.5 million documents have been imaged, which is a
22 process that the discovery vendor basically takes each native
23 file, converts it to a tiff file, so that it can apply a Bates
24 stamp to it, and then exports that from the vendor. The
25 discovery is sort of pulled together. We are at the stage of

1 them of just tiffing and Bates-stamping the documents.

2 Candidly, that is somewhat in the hands of the vendor.
3 We asked them to move quickly. I'm reluctant to give an
4 estimate because it always turns out to be wrong, but this is
5 not a case where we are still trying to try pull it together or
6 get it loaded. It's sort of on the system. It's just doing
7 the machine thing. It could be a month, it could be a week.
8 It's sort of hard to say.

9 I guess if your Honor wants an estimate, I would maybe
10 say by the end of August is realistic.

11 THE COURT: I take it you have already started that
12 process.

13 MR. ROOS: Correct.

14 THE COURT: Anything else I should know about
15 discovery?

16 MR. ROOS: I don't believe so.

17 THE COURT: Before I turn to the defense, why don't
18 you tell me what the bail terms are that were set in Florida.

19 MR. ROOS: The majority of the terms are the same for
20 all three defendants. If it's OK, I'll give your Honor the
21 terms that are the same and then I'll, after that, give the
22 individualized terms, which mostly just relate to cosigners and
23 bond amounts.

24 The common terms are: Surrender all passports and no
25 new applications, regular reporting to pretrial services, no

1 contact with victims or witnesses, except through counsel. We
2 have provided a list of individuals that we believe fall within
3 that category. I am not going to put them on the record. But
4 we have shared those with defense counsel.

5 Defendants may not communicate with each other, so
6 their codefendants, about the facts of the case or the case
7 itself, unless in the presence of counsel.

8 THE COURT: Let me ask you just on the names. I don't
9 particularly have any prurient interest, but should the names
10 be provided with the Court? How is that going to be enforced
11 if it's just an agreement between the two of you? Maybe you
12 could discuss that with the defense and let me know what your
13 position is.

14 MR. ROOS: I'll tell your Honor from my experience
15 from other cases is, we share with the defense, it's usually --
16 it's not an unlimited number of people. We have an agreement.
17 If there is an issue, we can then bring it to the Court. The
18 list is in writing. Sometimes the way these things are framed
19 is, we give them a list of names. Other times it's sort of a
20 category of people with specific exclusions. In this case it's
21 a mix. We have identified employees working for two different
22 companies and then a list of several other names.

23 THE COURT: Maybe what you can do is then just tell me
24 if the list is incorporated in a letter of such and such date
25 provided to the defense. Then just indicate what that is, if

1 it's agreed by the parties what the letter is, then I think
2 that's sufficient for my purposes. If we have shared names
3 with the defense with the lack of specificity, I can foresee
4 there being potential issues.

5 MR. ROOS: Certainly. That sounds reasonable. We
6 have put them in an email.

7 I will take your Honor's suggestion. We will put them
8 in a letter, and then maybe at the next court conference, or if
9 your Honor would like us to put a letter to the Court, we can
10 advise the Court of the date of the letter.

11 THE COURT: Why don't you put it in a letter to the
12 Court with a date of the letter, who it's addressed to.

13 MR. ROOS: Certainly.

14 THE COURT: You were walking through it. So no
15 communications with victims or witnesses, no communications
16 with each other, did you say?

17 MR. ROOS: They can have communications with each
18 other, except about the case or the facts underlying the case,
19 with the exception that they are permitted to discuss those
20 topics in the presence of counsel.

21 No firearms. Travel restricted to the Southern
22 District of New York, the Eastern District of New York, and the
23 Southern District of Florida. No individual financial
24 transfers in excess of 5,000 without approval by pretrial
25 services and the United States Attorney's Office for the

1 Southern District of New York.

2 I'll note that a few caveats on this restriction. The
3 first is, excluded from this limitation are legal fees and
4 payroll expenses, and second is, this is a restriction that
5 defense counsel has at least indicated they may need to have
6 some additional dialogue on because of other expenses. This is
7 without prejudice to a future defense application to exclude
8 other transfers from the limitation.

9 Then no new financial accounts without prior written
10 approval of pretrial services and the United States Attorney's
11 Office for the Southern District of New York. Those are the
12 common conditions.

13 In terms of individualized conditions, the bond amount
14 for Michael Shvartsman is \$20 million; for Gerald Shvartsman,
15 \$5 million; and for Bruce Garelick, \$100,000. The cosigners
16 for each of them are as follows: For Michael and Gerald
17 Shvartsman, it is three financially responsible persons, one of
18 whom is their spouse, so each of them, their own spouse. All
19 of them need to be interviewed by the Southern District of New
20 York. They are permitted to have cross signers among
21 codefendants, the same cosigners. For Mr. Garelick it is two
22 persons who are financially responsible, both of whom need to
23 be interviewed by the Southern District of New York.

24 In terms of property, the Court in Florida imposed a
25 restriction that Mr. Michael Shvartsman may not further

1 encumber apartment 2701, and Mr. Gerald Shvartsman may not
2 further encumber the property on 32nd Avenue. Mr. Michael
3 Shvartsman was ordered to maintain residence in his current
4 apartment or in another apartment under renovation, and
5 Mr. Gerald Shvartsman was ordered to maintain residence in his
6 current apartment or a home under renovation.

7 I believe those are all of the conditions. Obviously,
8 the defendants are permitted to be released subject to
9 fulfilling the conditions.

10 THE COURT: Is there a deadline by which they have to
11 have fulfilled the conditions?

12 MR. ROOS: Well, it was two weeks. There were some
13 complications both with the posting of the bond in the Southern
14 District of New York, literally the order, and the fact that
15 they needed to be interviewed in the SDNY. We had proposed two
16 weeks from the Court here entering the proposed order, such
17 that they can have their cosigners interviewed.

18 THE COURT: I am going to confirm these terms with
19 each of the defendants, that these are the agreed terms.

20 And then, Mr. Roos, what I am going to request is that
21 I will orally set the terms of bail, but you will submit to me
22 a letter laying this out in more detail and specificity that I
23 can then sign.

24 MR. ROOS: Would it be OK with your Honor if I put the
25 reference to the letter, saying the names in the same letter?

1 THE COURT: Yes. It might be helpful to get that by
2 the end of the day tomorrow, if you could arrange that.

3 MR. ROOS: That's not a problem.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Park, let me ask you whether the terms
5 as recited by Mr. Roos are accurate with respect to both
6 Michael and Gerald Shvartsman?

7 MR. PARK: They are, your Honor.

8 If I may just qualify one aspect. As Mr. Roos
9 indicated, we are in discussions with the government with
10 respect to the financial restriction on single transfers. The
11 5,000 restriction is somewhat constraining, but we are in
12 discussions with Mr. Roos about that. So hopefully we can
13 reach agreement and come back with a slight modification of
14 that restriction.

15 The only other caveat is that with respect to the
16 witnesses with whom the defendants may not have any contact,
17 some of them -- this may prove cumbersome because of the
18 relationships, business relationships among the defendants and
19 such witnesses. Again, we are in discussions with the
20 government to see if there is ways to kind of ameliorate that
21 can so as to enable certain kinds of communications.
22 Obviously, nothing with respect to the facts or the case, but
23 some level of communications.

24 For example, a couple are employees, so we are trying
25 to work that out and hopefully, again, optimistic that Mr. Roos

1 and I can reach agreement on that and, if necessary, submit a
2 slightly modified order in connection with those two elements.

3 But, otherwise, your Honor, the terms as stated by
4 Mr. Roos are all accurate and agreeable to Mr. Michael
5 Shvartsman and Mr. Gerald Shvartsman.

6 THE COURT: The way I would intend to handle the two
7 matters that you have referenced is that if there is agreement,
8 you can obviously submit a letter to me. If there is an
9 application as to which there is not agreement, then I would
10 receive letters. And in lieu of having the two of you come
11 into court and having your clients come up from Florida, I
12 would handle it by way of telephone conference to which the
13 public would have access.

14 Any objection to that?

15 MR. PARK: Not at all, your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Let me turn now to you, Mr. Frankel.

17 Do you agree with the terms as stated by the
18 government?

19 MR. FRANKEL: Yes, your Honor. Those terms are
20 accurate.

21 THE COURT: I am not going to repeat everything that
22 Mr. Roos said, but I will order the defendants released on bail
23 on the terms as set forth by the government and to be further
24 set forth in a letter that the government will send to me by
25 the end of the day tomorrow. Those terms are to be satisfied

1 within two weeks of tomorrow, which will be by August 4, absent
2 further application to the Court.

3 Before I turn to Mr. Park and Mr. Frankel with respect
4 to discovery and motions and anything else they would like to
5 bring to my attention, this is the first appearance that the
6 parties have had in this case in front of me, so I am going to
7 give a 5(f) order to the government.

8 I direct the prosecution to comply with its
9 obligations under *Brady v. Maryland* and its progeny to disclose
10 to the defense all information, whether admissible or not, that
11 is favorable to the defendant, material either guilt or to
12 punishment and known to the prosecution.

13 Possible consequences for noncompliance may include
14 dismissal of individual charges or the entire case, exclusion
15 of evidence and professional discipline, or court sanctions on
16 the attorneys responsible.

17 I will be entering a written order more fully
18 describing this obligation and the possible consequences of
19 failing to meet it, and I direct the prosecution to review and
20 comply with that order.

21 Mr. Roos, do you confirm that the government
22 understands its obligations and will fulfill them?

23 MR. ROOS: Yes, your Honor. I will acknowledge the
24 oral order and will review the Court's written order.

25 THE COURT: And you will comply with it?

1 MR. ROOS: Yes, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Park, what do you have to say and how
3 do you propose that I proceed? You heard me that I would like
4 to set some dates, I think both for motions and a date for
5 trial. It may be a date that is some ways off. But I think,
6 given the nature of the case, it would make sense to just have
7 a date certain.

8 MR. PARK: I think that's right, your Honor. We would
9 appreciate that.

10 The one question I had, and I did not have a chance to
11 discuss this with Mr. Roos. It was just inadvertence.

12 With respect to discovery, one question I did have is
13 whether there is a taint team for purposes of any privileged
14 materials that may have been swept up in the course of this
15 seizure and, if so, what the protocol would be that Mr. Roos
16 expects. And I do apologize to him for not having raised this
17 with him beforehand, but it occurred to me as he was reciting.

18 THE COURT: Why don't I ask Mr. Roos that question.

19 MR. ROOS: The government did use a filter team to
20 screen out potentially privileged materials. At this point I
21 believe that screening is done, so I am not sure it will really
22 have an effect on the litigation going forward other than to
23 acknowledge that there is some quantity of potentially
24 privileged materials that neither the government team
25 prosecuting the case nor the defendants in this case will have

1 access to, unless of course those privileged materials belong
2 to the defendants.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Park, if there is more information
4 that you need, you can ask that of Mr. Roos separately.

5 MR. PARK: Yes. Thank you, your Honor.

6 Based on the description that I have been given about
7 the volume of discovery, I think, your Honor, we would, at a
8 minimum, like at least eight months within which to get our
9 arms around that discovery and conduct any investigations
10 resulting from it for now. It's quite possible, of course,
11 that we may ask for a further extension as we get closer to
12 that eight months, but that would be my request. By that I
13 meant, by way of trial readiness.

14 With respect to motions, I would ask that the Court
15 set an initial 90-day motion deadline from the time when the
16 government completes its discovery as to the seized materials
17 that were pursuant to search warrants or any other
18 investigative technique that could give rise to a motion for
19 suppression.

20 THE COURT: Based upon the government's estimate, that
21 sounds like it would be sometime in the beginning of December.

22 MR. PARK: I think for now, your Honor, that would be
23 fine, and we would obviously endeavor to satisfy that. We are
24 obviously interested in moving this forward at a very efficient
25 clip so that we can remove this cloud over my clients'

1 respective heads.

2 One other issue that has not been covered but, as your
3 Honor noted, or as Mr. Roos noted, there is a parallel SEC
4 complaint. By my review of the two documents, they
5 substantially overlap, if not relate to identical conduct
6 during the identical time period.

7 It is often the case that the government seeks to stay
8 those SEC proceedings. I don't know if that's the government's
9 intent today with respect to the one, and I believe that case
10 has been wheeled out to Judge Gardephe. So I don't know what
11 the government's intent is with respect to that. But that may
12 be yet another motion practice that we would have to respond to
13 in that instance, obviously.

14 THE COURT: I am not going to push the government to
15 tell me now what its position will be in front of Judge
16 Gardephe. I'm familiar with that form of litigation.

17 I should put on the record, I have known Mr. Park for
18 a long time. We were in the U.S. Attorney's Office together.
19 Mr. Roos I know is familiar with that form of litigation. It's
20 well-tried grounds.

21 MR. PARK: Thank you, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Park, actually, one other question.

23 With respect to Gerald Shvartsman, I am a little bit
24 apprehensive that he doesn't have counsel who is going to be
25 representing him all the way through. Is there a day by which

1 we know that an appearance is going to be made for his counsel?

2 MR. PARK: My understanding, your Honor, is that he
3 has been active in speaking with potential counsel and is close
4 to making a decision. I expect that to happen within the week.

5 THE COURT: Great. Thanks.

6 Mr. Frankel, what is your view?

7 MR. FRANKEL: Your Honor, we are in agreement with
8 Mr. Park's assessment.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Roos, do you have a view in terms of a
10 timetable for motion practice and for trial?

11 MR. ROOS: I'd say we are available to try the case
12 whenever your Honor would like. I am just trying to do the
13 math.

14 In terms of the motion schedule, with respect to the
15 trial date, it is seems that if the defense motions were due in
16 December, potentially with the motion briefing to be completed
17 sometime in January, that might be a little tight for a trial
18 date in March, if I'm doing the math right at what eight months
19 out from now is.

20 THE COURT: If the defense made their motion at the
21 beginning of December, you would have two weeks to respond.
22 Let's build in a little bit of time for the holidays. It means
23 that motions would be addressed by me in early January. I
24 think we probably still could do something in mid-March on that
25 timetable.

1 Do you disagree?

2 MR. ROOS: That's fine, your Honor. It's totally up
3 to you. I think we can be ready for it.

4 THE COURT: Let me confer with my deputy.

5 Here is what I am going to do. I am going to set a
6 date for motions to be filed by November 24. It's a little bit
7 quicker than the 90 days from the date that the government
8 expects to complete its production of all the discovery.

9 I am setting that in part on the assumption that,
10 Mr. Roos, you will be able to turn over the search warrant
11 affidavits in your first batch of discovery material.

12 I'm setting trial for March 18 of 2024. The
13 oppositions to the motions to dismiss -- I'm sorry. Wrong type
14 of case. The oppositions to the motions will be due on
15 December 8, and any replies on December 14. I'll set a date
16 for a hearing early the week of December 18. That way, you
17 will have done your work before the Christmas holidays, and you
18 will leave me with work to do over the Christmas holidays.

19 December 19 at 2 p.m. work for you, Mr. Park?

20 MR. PARK: Yes, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Frankel.

22 MR. FRANKEL: Yes, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Mr. Roos.

24 MR. ROOS: That's fine, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: If we are going to trial March 18, we are

1 going to do a final pretrial conference sometime the week of
2 March 11. I am going to want requests to charge and motions *in*
3 *limine* by February 23 and responses to any motions *in limine* by
4 March 1, as well as responses to the requests to charge.

5 Let me give you a date for the final pretrial
6 conference. March 13 at 2 p.m.

7 Mr. Park.

8 MR. PARK: Fine, your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Frankel.

10 MR. FRANKEL: Fine, your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Mr. Roos.

12 MR. ROOS: That's fine, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Those dates are set. I think that just
14 leaves the Speedy Trial Act.

15 Is there anything else from the government besides the
16 Speedy Trial Act?

17 MR. ROOS: No, your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Mr. Park.

19 MR. PARK: No, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Frankel.

21 MR. FRANKEL: No, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Government have an application?

23 MR. ROOS: Yes, your Honor.

24 The government moves to exclude time between today's
25 date and the date of trial, which is set for March 18, 2024.

1 The reasons for the application are so that the government can
2 produce discovery, the defendants can review the discovery,
3 consider any motions they have, make motions, and prepare for
4 trial and so that, if appropriate, and if the parties wish to
5 discuss a potential disposition, they have time to do so.

6 The government respectfully submits and is making this
7 application that the interests of the parties outweigh the
8 public interest in an otherwise speedier trial.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Park.

10 MR. PARK: No objection.

11 THE COURT: I take it that's for both defendants?

12 MR. PARK: Correct, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Frankel.

14 MR. FRANKEL: No objection.

15 THE COURT: The Court will exclude time from today
16 until March 18, 2024 under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C.
17 3161(h)(7)(A).

18 I find that the ends of justice outweigh the interests
19 of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial in that,
20 given the volume of discovery, the time is necessary for the
21 government to produce discovery, and for the defense to review
22 discovery, to consider and make potential motions, as well as
23 to prepare for trial, and for the parties to discuss whether a
24 potential pretrial disposition is appropriate and can be
25 reached in this case.

1 Anything else from the government?

2 MR. ROOS: No. Thank you, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Park.

4 MR. PARK: Nothing for us, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Frankel.

6 MR. FRANKEL: No, your Honor.

7 THE COURT: I should say as, Mr. Park, Gerald
8 Shvartsman is looking for counsel; Mr. Frankel, your client is
9 thinking whether to retain you or to retain somebody else, that
10 whoever they retain should be told that I intend March 18 to be
11 a firm trial date. I am not going to receive well an
12 application by an attorney that they'd like to come into the
13 case, but they just can't be available on March 18. Find
14 lawyers who are available on March 18. There are a lot of
15 really good lawyers out there.

16 Thanks, guys.

17 (Adjourned)

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